

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6860

Petitions of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.)
(VELCO), Vermont Transco, LLC, and Green Mountain)
Power Corporation (GMP) for a certificate of public)
good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 248, authorizing)
VELCO to construct the so-called Northwest Vermont)
Reliability Project, said project to include: (1) upgrades)
at 12 existing VELCO and GMP substations located in)
Charlotte, Essex, Hartford, New Haven, North)
Ferrisburgh, Poultney, Shelburne, South Burlington,)
Vergennes, West Rutland, Williamstown, and Williston,)
Vermont; (2) the construction of a new 345 kV)
transmission line from West Rutland to New Haven; (3))
the reconstruction of a portion of a 34.5 kV and 46 kV)
transmission line from New Haven to South Burlington;)
and (4) the reconductoring of a 115 kV transmission line)
from Williamstown to Barre, Vermont –)

Order entered: 1/11/2007

ORDER RE APPROVAL OF RELOCATION OF VERMONT MARBLE 46 kV LINE

On January 28, 2005, the Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") issued an Order approving the Northwest Reliability Project proposed by Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. ("VELCO") and Green Mountain Power Corporation ("GMP"). A condition of the January 28 Order stated:

Petitioners shall file, for the Board's approval, final construction plans for the 345 kV line, 115 kV line, and the substation upgrades, concurrent with plans for aesthetic and environmental mitigation, as required by the post-certification process described in the Order. Petitioners may commence construction only after receiving approval for such plans, and receipt of all necessary permits.

On January 3, 2006, the Board issued an Order approving the final construction plans for the 345 kV line.

In its original filing of June 6, 2003, VELCO indicated that, to accommodate the construction of the new 345 kV transmission line, it would need to relocate a segment of an existing 46 kV subtransmission line owned by the Vermont Marble Power Division of Omya,

Inc. ("Vermont Marble") in Florence, Vermont. On December 22, 2006, VELCO and Vermont Transco, LLC (hereinafter collectively referred to as "VELCO") filed, for Board approval, plans for that relocation of a portion of the Vermont Marble 46 kV line.

By memorandum dated January 4, 2007, the Board established a deadline of January 9, 2007, for any responses to VELCO's December 22 filing. The only comment received was from Vermont Marble, which, in a letter filed January 9, 2007, states its agreement with the proposed relocation of the 46 kV line if all costs and expenses of the relocation are borne by VELCO (as VELCO itself has proposed).

VELCO's proposal involves the relocation of approximately 1600 feet of the existing Vermont Marble 46 kV line located to the south of the Florence substation. The 46 kV line is currently located approximately 50 feet west of the existing 115 kV line, and would be moved to a location approximately 60 feet west of the new 345 kV line.¹ The relocation would involve the removal of four existing single-pole structures with an average above-grade height of 31 feet, and the installation of seven new single-pole structures with an average above-grade height of 37 feet. Although the new poles would be taller than the poles being replaced, they would be shorter than the nearby existing 115 kV structures (average above-grade height of nearly 53 feet) and new 345 kV structures (average above-grade height of nearly 85 feet).

VELCO represents that the proposed relocation is necessary in order to provide sufficient clearance between the 46 kV line and the new 345 kV line, as required by applicable electrical code requirements. VELCO further represents that the relocation would not require any additional tree clearing, and that the wetlands impacts of the relocation have been authorized in a United States Army Corps of Engineers permit and in a State of Vermont Conditional Use Determination. VELCO also represents that the relocation area has been determined not to be archeologically sensitive by the University of Vermont Consulting Archeology Program.

The Board hereby approves the proposed relocation of the Vermont Marble 46 kV subtransmission line, consistent with the plans filed with the Board on December 22, 2006, subject to the following conditions:

1. In its original filing, VELCO had proposed to relocate the 46 kV line 70 feet west of the 345 kV line.

1. VELCO must obtain all necessary permits and approvals prior to site preparation and construction.
2. Prior to commencement of site preparation and construction, VELCO shall inform the Board only if any of the following are applicable:
 - (a) any additional permits or approvals are required;
 - (b) any permit or approval requires any changes to the design of the line relocation.
3. All costs and expenses of the relocation of the 46 kV line shall be borne by VELCO.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 11th day of January, 2007.

_____)	
)	PUBLIC SERVICE
)	
s/David C. Coen)	BOARD
)	
)	OF VERMONT
s/John D. Burke)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: January 11, 2007

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)